On the Centre-State Financial Relations, while the Standing Committee had reached a consensus in respect of some recommendations, the matter could not be taken up for discussion in the meeting of the Inter-State Council held on 17.7.1997.

The views of the Members of the Standing Committee including the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, were kept in view while preparing the consensus documents.

[Translation]

Upbhokta Kalyan Kosh

3261. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the new-item captioned 'Upbhokta Kalyan Kosh, Kalyan Sey Kesa Door' appeared in the *Navbharat Times* dated June 23, 1997;

(b) whether the Consumer Welfare Fund is not competent enough to play an important role in the welfare of common people;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the concrete steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The overall objective of the Consumer Welfare Fund is to provide financial assistance to promote and protect the welfare of the consumers and strengthen the voluntary consumer movement in the country particularly in the rural areas. The proposals for financial assistance from agencies/organisations engaged in consumer welfare activities for a period of not less than three years and registered under the Companies Act, 1956 (1 of 1956) or under any law for the time being in force, are processed as per the Rules and assistance is granted to all eligible organisation.

(c) and (d) Do no arise in view of reply at (b) above.

[English]

Use of Green House in Agriculture

3262. SHRI L. RAMANA :
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plan to use modern technology like Green House in the agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the benefits therefrom; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE) (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme entitled 'Use of Plastics in Agriculture' which includes the component of Green House. Assistance is being provided for construction of Low Cost, Medium Cost and High Cost Green Houses involving a maximum subsidy of Rs. 31,250 for low-cost Green House, Rs. one lakh for medium & High cost Green Houses, respectively. The benefits derived from Green Houses are as follows:

(1) it is possible to grow high quality seedlings of horticultural crops;

(2) it is possible to grow high quality flowers and foliage plants for domestic as well as export market;

(3) it is possible to grow off season vegetables;

(4) it is possible to grow vegetable under cold desert conditions.

(c) Does not arise.

Delhi Police

3263. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) the number of Delhi Police personnel killed or injured while on duty, during the last three years;

(b) the prescribed proviso to provide relief and assistance to the deceased family and to the injured personnel;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal under consideration to increase the limit of monetary assistance provided to the family of the deceased or to the injured personnel in view of the high risk involved these days in the nature of duties of the police personnel including the traffic personnel; and

(d) if so, the details of such a proposal?